

with the Siam plant, and may prove only a variety. But the inflorescence of the Java plant is narrower, denser, and more hairy than that of the Siam plant. This Java plant is written up in Herb. Kew. as *Mesona* sp. nov. Bentham MSS. [1879] and for the moment may bear the name *Nosema capitatum* VAR.? *javanica*, C.B. Clarke MSS.

There are two other distinct species of *Nosema* in Herb. Kew.

2. NOSEMA PRUNELLOIDES *C. B. Clarke*; leaves ovate-oblong, 1-1.25 in. long; lateral nerves mostly 7 pairs. *Mesona prunelloides* Hemsl. in Forbes & Hemsl. Journ. Linn. Soc. xxvi. 267.

CHINA: Pakhoi, *Playfair* 110.

3. NOSEMA TONKINENSE, *C. B. Clarke* MSS.; leaves narrow-oblong, up to 1.5 in. long, .25 in. wide; lateral nerves about 5 pairs. *Mesona chinensis* Herb. Kew. partim, non. Benth.

INDO-CHINA: Tonking; *Balansa*, 993.

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Noviciæ Indiæ XXI. *An undescribed Indian Musa.*—By D. PRAIN.

[Read 2nd December, 1903.]

Three years ago a native collector in the service of the Royal Botanic Garden, Shibpur, sent to Calcutta the rootstocks of a *Musa* from the Jaboca Naga country. The plant has thriven well and has recently flowered. As the species is very different from any *Musa* hitherto in cultivation in the Royal Botanic Garden, is unrepresented in the herbarium collections either at Kew or at Calcutta, and is undescribed in Mr. Baker's *Synopsis of the Genera and Species of Musæ* or in Professor Schumann's article *Musacæ* in Engler's *Pflanzenreich*, a formal description of the plant is herewith offered to the Society.

MUSA (§ Eumusa) NAGENSIIUM *Prain* sp. nov. Herba stolouifera, rhizomate perenni caule sub-cylindrico ultra 6-metrali, innovationibus glaucissimis. *Folia* petiolata laminis longitudine ultra 3-metralibus, sursum viridibus nitidis, subtus densissime glaucis. *Inflorescentia* terminalis, nutans; rachi ultra 2-metrali, glabra; bracteis oblongo-lanceolatis, inferioribus 20-24 cm. longis, 10 cm. latis, summis 15-18 cm. longis, 7 cm. latis, externe lateritio-miniatis, intus nitidis aurantiacis, singulis flores 18-20 2-seriatis includentibus. *Flores* inferiores per-

pauci tantum fœminei; perigonio aurantiaco 6 cm. longo, 1.25 cm. lato, lorum exteriorum 2 parte libera 1.5 cm. longo basi 3 mm. lata anguste lanceolata, interiorum 2 parte libera 6 mm. longa basi 2.5 mm. lata; tepalo libero albo fere pellucido versus apicem minopere primulino, ovato-lanceolato, 3 cm. longo, 1.5 cm. lato, basi rotundato, apice acuto rarius acuminato integro vel nonnunquam indistincte trilobato; staminibus perfectis 5, 4.5 cm. longis, filamentis crassiusculis pallide flavis 1.25 cm. longis, antheris 3.25 cm. longis connectivoque pallide aurantiacis, pollinis granulis albis globosis lævibus, stamine sexto ad staminodium subulatum flavum 5 mm. longum reducto; ovario sæpe 2-loculari stylo filiformi cylindrico pallide flavo 5 cm. longo, stigmatate 6-loba clavato; ovulis numerosis anatropis. *Fructus* anguste clavato-oblongus, distincte angulatus, viridis, lævis, exsuccus, 12–15 cm. longus, 3 cm. latus, longius stipitatus, ad rachin virgatim approximatus; seminibus irregulariter tessaroidis 11 mm. longis, 8 mm. latis, 6 mm. crassis, testa ossea brunneo-nigra, præter area circumhilaris alba.

ASSAM: in montibus Nagensibus orientalibus in ditone Jaboca dicta, *Abdul Huq!*

This very fine species in habit much resembles the common *Musa paradisiaca* Linn., SUBSPECIES *seminifera* Lour., VAR. *pruinosa* King, from Sikkim, with which it moreover agrees in height, in having the leaves very densely glaucous beneath, and in having the fruit distinctly angular. The two are however different as regards the colour of the bracts which in the Sikkim plant are violet-purple, in the present species are of a warm 'Indian red' outside and a bright shining orange colour inside. The stem in the Naga plant is more graceful and slender than in the Sikkim one. The most salient difference however is in the fruits which in the Sikkim plant are stouter and are recurved as in all other varieties of *M. paradisiaca*, whereas in *M. Nagensium* they point persistently forward and downward in the direction of the apex of the long pendulous rachis; the rachis too in the Naga plant is much more slender and the bracts are much more remote than is ever the case in *M. paradisiaca*; the cone formed by the bracts is consequently longer, narrower and more sharply pointed in the Naga plant than in *M. paradisiaca*. Another nearly related species is *Musa glauca* Roxb. from Burma, which however differs greatly in the colour of its bracts which are almost green, in the size of its leaves, which are less than 2 metres long; and in the shape of its fruit which is ellipsoid and not angular, and though wider (5 cm.) than in the Naga plant is only 9 cm. long and is not stipitate.